

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL & REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MINUTES
CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH
MAY 23, 2005
BUDGET WORKSHOP – 5:30 P.M.
COMMUNITY ROOM
825 Imperial Beach Boulevard
Imperial Beach, California**

CALL TO ORDER

MAYOR ROSE called the Special Budget Workshop Meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present:
Councilmembers absent:
Mayor present:
Mayor Pro Tem present:

McCoy, McLean
Winter
Rose
Janney

Staff present:

City Manager Brown, Deputy City Clerk Wolfson

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

1. FY 2005/2007 “PRELIMINARY” TWO-YEAR OPERATING BUDGET. (0330-30)

CITY MANAGER BROWN introduced the item; he spoke about redevelopment projects for the future and he talked about increasing Sheriff's costs. He asked Council to consider holding the next Regular Council meeting on Thursday, June 2nd, as opposed to Wednesday, June 1st.

MAYOR ROSE announced that the Padres will have a South Bay government employees appreciation night on Wednesday, June 1st and the mayors representing the South Bay cities had been invited to throw out the first pitch.

MOTION BY ROSE, SECOND BY MCLEAN, TO CONTINUE THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 1, 2005 TO JUNE 2, 2005. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR HERRERA gave a PowerPoint presentation on the item and highlighted various sections of the budget; he stated that the FY 05/07 budget relies on super-funded reserve accounts and that over the last five years the City has put money aside for economic uncertainty (i.e., PERS pension costs and state budget problems).

Discussion ensued regarding the Sheriff's budget, specifically that of the School Resource Officer (SRO) which is in place for a nine-month period during the school year.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR HERRERA stated that the City previously received in \$1.8 million for property tax but now the City would receive \$3.1 million from the state; however, less money would be received for vehicle license fees (VLF); the City once received \$1.3 million but now would only receive \$232,000. He reported that there was not an eight percent increase in the non-departmental budget, but rather only one percent; he stated that the Planning & Zoning budget would decrease because funds could be shifted from the general fund budget and placed in the redevelopment budget.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR HERRERA stated that the organizational chart included two new Residential Fire Safety inspectors for implementation of the fire inspection program. He noted that Imperial Beach has the lowest expense per capita in comparison to other cities, which shows that the City is efficient on what to spend on programs per capita.

MAYOR ROSE thanked Mr. Herrera for the presentation and his staff for their hard work. She asked about the Sheriff's costs, including the loss of the SRO but adding summer patrol; she stated that she was under the impression that the SRO would be handling the summer patrol.

CHIEF SOTELO responded by saying that last year a supplemental patrol was provided, and an SRO was deployed to the beach after the school year ended; the school district paid for half of this service but the district had requested that one SRO be eliminated this year, which impacts the summer deployment. He added that Sheriff's Captain Parker was able to negotiate one additional patrol with relief during the summer on straight time.

Discussion ensued regarding charging parties involved for civil cases and DUI incidents in attempts to recoup funds.

COUNCILMEMBER MCCOY asked that this be looked at for additional revenue; she also stated that charging involved parties may raise the level of compliance in neighborhoods and promote a more law-abiding community.

CHIEF SOTELO said he would contact the state to get booking fees reimbursed; he added that as a potential cost-saving measure, staff is working with a consultant to review emergency medical services (EMS); he said this study will be done next month and will be brought back to Council for review, and he would like to have the program in place by January 1, 2006.

Discussion ensued regarding current animal shelter arrangements.

COUNCILMEMBER MCCOY expressed her desire for a grant program that includes an education component regarding animal welfare.

CHIEF SOTELO responded that he would look into the agreement with Chula Vista; he noted that although the City did contribute to the design of the shelter, the agreement did not allow us ownership rights. He said he would renegotiate with Chula Vista.

In response to questions regarding cost increases in facilities maintenance, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR HERRERA stated that the costs of utilities, as well as the PERS pension costs, have increased. It was noted after printing that Public Works Director Levien had identified a \$14,000 duplicate item in the facilities maintenance budget. Mr. Herrera said there would be an adjustment.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR HERRERA responded to questions regarding the Council budget. He noted that in prior years no salaries were charged towards administrative costs and instead were charged to the City Manager's budget. With regard to Councilmembers' salaries decreasing, he said that half of the salaries would be charged to redevelopment. He added that the net increase to the Council budget was three to four percent.

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER RITTER said that the Year to Date Actual for FY 04/05 was not a full year.

MAYOR ROSE expressed concern that Council's salaries had not been increased in 20 years.

MAYOR PRO TEM JANNEY noted that with regard to the Fund Balance Analysis, no bond money was spent.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR HERRERA reminded Council that the City made approximately \$300,000 in interest earnings and that the Five-Year CIP was not shown in this report. He spoke about Debt Service funds and said that if there were a shortage, money could be transferred. He also said that other activities could be funded without encumbering debt. He said that the General Fund could loan money to the RDA fund, but this is a form of debt; and that all of this money could be spent without issuing bonds.

MAYOR PRO TEM JANNEY expressed concern with regard to bonding by saying that the City bonded 1.5 years ago and it has not done anything with respect to the bond, and he voiced his desire to get projects going. He also expressed concern regarding increasing Sheriff's costs. He said that according to newspaper articles public safety costs for San Diego County has increased 3.5 percent and he questioned why Imperial Beach had to endure an 8 percent increase.

MAYOR ROSE suggested that staff communicate with Contract Law Enforcement Cities Technical Advisory Committee (CLETAC) to reconfigure how costs are allocated and to determine if contracts could be renegotiated.

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER RITTER noted that many cities are reluctant to renegotiate contracts since it may have an adverse effect on charges and he suggested hiring a consultant to review this.

MAYOR ROSE thanked staff for presenting balanced budgets for the last two years. She suggested consideration of a tax measure in the future, although she had no position.

MAYOR PRO TEM JANNEY responded that more information would have to be obtained on why there are increases in the Sheriff's Department before presenting the measure to the community.

CITY MANAGER BROWN stated that he was asked to report on the impacts of the Governor's proposals, and he stated that cities would be paid back sooner on VLF monies. He said that he would discuss with Councilmember Winter the possibility of the League of California Cities examining issues more closely.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Diane Rose, Mayor

Attest:
Lisa D. Wolfson
Deputy City Clerk